

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 EUR-12 IO-13 ACDA-10 SSM-05
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00 AID-05 EB-08
/128 W

-----091618Z 087383 /40

R 091432Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5185

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 1693

DEPT PASS OAU COLLECTIVE AND ALL ARAB CAPITALS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: IS, XF, AF
SUBJECT: ISRAELI PRESS ON AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT

1. ISRAELI PRESS HAS REPORTED WITH LITTLE ENTHUSIASM ON THE CURRENT AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT BEING HELD IN CAIRO AND HAS COMMENTED THAT AFRICAN COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT BE SURPRISED AT RECEIVING LESS THAN FULL FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE ARABS IN RETURN FOR THEIR STANDS AGAINST ISRAEL. THE JERUSALEM POST'S REPORTING FOR MARCH 9 EMPHASIZED THAT THE CAIRO MEETING BETWEEN HUSSEIN AND ARAFAT IS OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE AND GOES ON TO MENTION THAT ARAB AND AFRICAN LEADERS YESTERDAY (MARCH 8) FIRED SEVERAL SALVOES AGAINST ISRAEL, GROUPING THE JEWISH STATE WITH RACIST WHITE REGIMES OF AFRICA. THE POST NOTED THE DISCORDANT SOUNDS OF LIBYA CRITICIZING EGYPT AND SYRIA, OF ETHIOPIA FLAILING ITS ARAB NEIGHBORS, AND OF BENIN DENOUNCING MOROCCO AND GABON. FINALLY, THE POST NOTED THAT PRESIDENT SARKIS REBUKED ARAFAT FOR RAISING THE QUESTION OF SOUTHERN LEBANON AT THE CONFERENCE.

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2. ACCORDING TO HAARETZ REPORT, THE SUMMIT WHICH ENDED WITH THE PUBLICATION OF THE "CAIRO DOCUMENT" WAS HIGHLIGHTED YESTERDAY (MARCH 8) BY THE ETHIOPIAN ATTACK ON THE ARAB STATES. THE ETHIOPIANS DENIED THE KHARTOUM STATEMENTS BY EGYPT, SYRIA AND SUDAN TO THE EFFECT THAT THE RED SEA WAS AN ARAB LAKE.

3. YEDIOT AHARONOT REPORTED THAT THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE WOULD ADOP PROPOSALS TO ESTABLISH INSTITUTIONS GIVING PERMANENT STATUS TO ARAB-ARICAN COOPERATION. THIS WILL MAKE IT HARDER FOR ISRAEL TO RESUME NORMAL RELATIONS WITH BLACK AFRICA, IN SPITE OF ISOLATED MEETINGS SUCH AS THOSE BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER RABIN AND THE PRESIDENTS OF THE IVORY COAST AND SENEGAL.

4. DAVAR EDITORIALIZES THAT THE CAIRO CONFERENCE IS EXPECTED TO END WITH UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE ARAB-ARICAN POLITICAL ALLIANCE, WHICH WOULD MANIFEST ITSELF IN RENEWED RESOLUTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL, ZIONISM, SOUTH AFRICA, AND RHODESIA AND ON THIRD WORLD UNITY VERSUS THE DEVELOPED WEST. THE MOST SYMBOLIC PHENOMENON OF THE CONFERENCE MAY WELL BE THE FACT THAT THE PRINCIPAL AFRICAN SPEAKER WAS IDI AMIN DADA, DAVAR SAYS.

5. HARRETZ COMMENTS THAT, DESPITE THE FACT THAT AFRICAN EXPECTATIONS FOR ARAB AID DO NOT ACCORD WITH ARAB WILLINGNESS TO GIVE, THE AFRICAN LEADERS ARE STILL HPING THAT THE ARABS WILL LIVE UP TO THEIR PROMISES. HAARETZ SAYS THAT HOSTILITY AND SUSPICION HAVE CAST A CLOUD ON AFRO-ARAB RELATIONS AND THAT IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THAT THE CAIRO SUMMIT WAS INTENDED TO SERVE ARAB POLITICAL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS PURPOSES. THUS, ISRAEL MUST MAKE EXTRA EFFORTS TO RENEW CONTACTS WITH AFRICAN LEADERS.
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NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED OAU COLLECTIVE AND ALL ARAB CAPITALS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
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Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770376/aaaacosg.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: a5bfd1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3156566
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI PRESS ON AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT
TAGS: PFOR, IS, XF, XA, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a5bfd1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009